



United Nations Statistics Division
New York

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Officials in charge: Philippe Küttel / Michel A. Di Pietro
Neuchâtel, 30 November 2006

Update of the 1993 SNA / Comments on draft chapters no. 9 and 14

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are writing in connection with draft chapters no. 9 and 14 of the updated 1993 SNA. Switzerland has the following comments.

Draft chapter no. 9

9.8

“, ... while the actual final consumption of government units ~~and NPISHs~~ is derived by subtracting ...”
(Explanation: NPISHs have no actual final consumption, see 9.110.)

9.17

“ ... while that for government units ~~and NPISHs~~ is obtained by subtracting ... “

9.97

“(c) ... must be such that its ~~acquisition use~~ by one household ... , precludes its ~~acquisition use~~ by other households ... “

(Explanation: more precise wording.)

“(d) The good or service must be such that it is possible and not excessively expensive to prevent anyone from consuming it.”

(Explanation: according to economic theory one of the characteristics of private goods and services is that their consumption is excludable.)

9.99

“ ... , the important characteristic of an individual good or service is that its ~~acquisition use~~ by one household, ... “

9.100

“ ... , certain kinds of services can only be provided collectively ... “

“(a) Collective services can only be delivered simultaneously... “

“(d) To prevent anyone from consuming a collective service is either very expensive or impossible.”

(Explanation: according to economic theory one of the characteristics of public goods and services is that their consumption is non-excludable.)

9.101

“ ... , the maintenance of public health, the protection of the environment, ~~research and development~~, etc. “

(Explanation: consistency with provisional recommendation no. 9, that is expenditure on research and development to be recorded as capital formation and not as consumption expenditure any more.)

“ ... , individuals cannot be charged according to their usage ~~or the benefits they derive.~~”

(Explanation: in practice, individuals are never charged according to the benefits they derive.)

9.107

“(a) ... to charge individual consumers of certain collective services according to their usage ~~or benefits they derive~~, ... “

9.116

~~“(a) General government expenditure on individual consumption goods and services;~~

~~“(b) General government expenditure on collective consumption services.”~~

(Explanation: redundancy.)

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Meier', written in a cursive style.

Ruth Meier
Director